

Message Text

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15

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 NRC-05 ERDE-00

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O R 190755Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7115

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BRISBANE UNN

AMCONSUL PERTH UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SYDNEY 2186

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, AS

SUBJ: NUCLEAR NAVAL VESSEL CALLS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

THE NEW SOUTH WALES DEPUTY PREMIER, JACK FERGUSON, TELEPHONED
TO RELAY WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS AN UNOFFICIAL VIEW
REGARDING NUCLEAR POWERED VESSELS (NPW) VISITS TO NEW
SOUTH WALES PORTS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE
MATTER WITH THE PREMIER, NEVILLE WRAN, AND THEY FELT
THAT AN UNOFFICIAL EXPRESSION OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S
VIEWS WOULD BE THE SC# WAY TO AVOID A PUBLIC

CONFRONTATION OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. NAVY NPW
MAKING CALLS AT NEW SOUTH WALES PORTS SIMILAR TO THE
VISIT OF A NPW TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA. THO#EXPLAINED THAT
THE NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE WAS THAT NAVY
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NPW WOULD BE UNWELCOME IN NEWSOUTH WALES, BECAUSE THEY

FELT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SUBJECTED TO PROTESTS BOTH ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL BASIS AND WHAT HE IMPLIED WOULD BE A "POLITICAL" BASIS. I ASKED HIM WHAT PROMPTED HIS CALL AT THIS TIME AND HE EXPLAINED THAT THE OCCURRENCE OF A NPW VISIT TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA WAS THE IMMEDIATE OCCASION FOR THE SUBJECT HAVING ARISEN. BEFORE TERMINATING THE CONVERSATION FERGUSON AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE DESIRE TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION ON THE MATTER. BECAUSE THE DEPUTY PREMIER'S ADVICE ARRIVED BY TELEPHONE, I PLAN TO MEET WITH HIM PERSONALLY TO OBTAIN A MORE ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF THE BASIS FOR THE NEW SOUTH WALES POSITION. INPUT AND COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. IZENBERG

NOTE BY OC/T: SYDNEY 2186(#)AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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